Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 105097
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:WMATTHEWS
APPROVED BY ARA:TATODMAN
ARA/CEN:DCJOHNSON
ARA:FDEVINE
D/HA:MBOVA
NSC:RPASTOR
S/S:SEBASTIAN
P:JFORBES
----------091720Z 098559 /53
O 091706Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 105097

EXDIS FOR THE AMB FM TODMAN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, SHUM, US, ES

SUBJECT: RELATIONS WITH THE GOES

REF: (A) STATE 098384 (B) SAN SALVADOR 2056

1. -.. I SHARE THE VIEW THAT AN ORAL
MESSAGE BY MATTHEWS ALONG THE LINES OF REF A MIGHT NOT
SUFFICIENTLY CONVEY TO THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT-ELECT
(A) THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH WE VIEW THE RICHARDSON
CASE AND OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION AND
(B) THE FACT THAT YOUR REPRESENTATIONS ON THESE MATTERS
HAVE BEEN UNDER INSTRUCTION. UNFORTUNATELY, I CANNOT
INCLUDE SAN SALVADOR ON MY ITINERARY.
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2. MATTHEWS WILL, THEREFORE, BRING A LETTER CONTAINING

THE POINTS MATTHEWS AND YOU WERE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE
ORALLY EXCEPT THE ONE ON CAUTIONING THE AMERICAN PUBLIC
ON TRAVEL. THAT POINT SHOULD STILL BE MADE ORALLY, AS
ITS INCLUSION IN A LETTER WOULD PROBABLY BE COUNTER-

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PRODUCTIVE.

3. YOU SHOULD REQUEST MEETINGS AS PREVIOUSLY INSTRUCTED FOR YOURSELF AND MATTHEWS, BUT FOR WEEK OF MAY 22 INSTEAD OF MAY 15, AS MATTHEWS WILL NOW BE UNABLE TO TRAVEL BEFORE THAT TIME. YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT MATTHEWS WILL BEAR A MESSAGE FROM A HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIAL ON THE RICHARDSON CASE AND OTHER MATTERS FOR PRESIDENT MOLINA, BUT YOU SHOULD NOT SPECIFY WHETHER THE MESSAGE WILL BE IN LETTER FORM NOR THE IDENTITY OF ITS SENDER.

4. CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE RICHARDSON CASE AND PRE- AND POST-ELECTION EVENTS IN EL SALVADOR HAVE COMBINED TO CREATE TENSIONS IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS THAT WILL NOT BE EASED SIMPLY OR QUICKLY. NEVERTHELESS, I TRUST THAT THE LETTER AND YOUR ACCOMPANYING EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN WILL MAKE CLEAR TO MOLINA AND ROMERO NOT ONLY OUR UNHAPPINESS OVER THE FAILURE OF THE GOES TO BE RESPONSIVE TO DATE, BUT ALSO OUR CONTINUED HOPE THAT IT WILL CHOOSE TO ACT IN THE FUTURE SO AS TO RENEW OUR CONFIDENCE IN ITS DESIRE TO RESTORE GOOD RELATIONSHIPS. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE SALVADORAN LEADERSHIP IS NOT CURRENTLY INCLINED TO YIELD ON THE RICHARDSON CASE AND WILL NOT BE ADVERSE TO INTERPRETING FUTURE US ACTIONS TO SUIT ITS OWN SENSITIVITIES, JUST AS IT HAS DONE IN THE RECENT PAST.
WE MUST MAKE CLEAR, THEREFORE, THAT WHILE WE IN NO WAY CONDONE ITS PAST CONDUCT, NOR CAN WE CONSIDER THE RICHARDSON CASE A CLOSED ISSUE UNTIL WE ARE PROVIDED A SATISFACTORY RESPONSE, OUR PRINCIPAL INTEREST IS THAT THE GOES

PREVENT THE OCCURRENCE OF FURTHER CASES SUCH AS THE RICHARDSON ONE AND, MORE BROADLY, THAT THERE BE AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE TOTAL HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR.

6. WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT INTEND TO MAKE LETTER PUBLIC UNLESS GOES IS COMPLETELY UNYIELDING, AND CERTAINLY NOT UNTIL GOES HAS HAD TIME TO REACT.

7. FYI: WE HAVE PRESENTLY UNDER INTERDEPARTMENTAL REVIEW THE QUESTION OF WHETHER, BECAUSE OF THE RICHARDSON CASE AND OTHER CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN EL SALVADOR, WE SHOULD ADVISE THE IDB THAT WE WISH TO HAVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE SAN LORENZO HYDROPOWER LOAN POSTPONED. IF WE DO SO, WE WILL ADVISE THE GOES THAT OUR DECISION TO DELAY THIS LOAN IS LINKED PRIMARILY TO HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN EL SALVADOR, AND WE INTEND TO EMPHASIZE THE RICHARDSON CASE AS A MAJOR PART OF THOSE CONDITIONS- SINCE THE USG POSITION ON THIS LOAN IS STILL NOT FINALIZED, THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE TIGHTLY HELD. END FYI. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE105097
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WMATTHEWS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770162-1078
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770578/aaaacpiz.tel
Line Count: 116
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2594673
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RELATIONS WITH THE GOES
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, SHUM, US, ES, (RICHARDSON, RONALD JAMES)
To: SAN SALVADOR
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d072c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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